104, 113

Telugu AW17

[For definitions and explanations of native terms see Index, category 116, 6: Spate AW1 India, pp. 789-821.]

1: Dube E-5 (1951-52) 1955 AW17 Telugu AW17

Glossary

104 *Allah.* Islamic expression for God.

Arya Samaj. A modern reformist sect of the Hindus based mainly on the Vedas. Founded by Dayanand Saraswati, this sect discards idolatry and other later tendencies of Hinduism.

Ashramas. Four stages or periods in the life of a Hindu. The prescribed stages are: (1) Brahmacharya (the student life); (2) Grahastha (the householder's life); (3) Vanaprastha (the hermit's life); and (4) Sanyas (the beggar's life).

Atma. Soul or spirit.

Brahmacharya. Period of celibate education, the first stage in the life of a Hindu.

Chetla-kriya. Black magic.

Dharma. The approved way of life comprising righteousness, religious ordinances, rules of conduct, and duties of an individual peculiar to his stage and station in life. In English religion is often used to denote *dharma*, but this is misleading.

Dvija. The three 'twice-born' *varnas* who are eligible to perform certain special rites denoting spiritual rebirth.

Farman. A government order issued by a Muslim ruler.

Gotram. Clan, an exogamous division of caste.

Grahastya. A householder's life, the second stage in the life of a Hindu.

Jaggery. Crude brown sugar made from the juice of sugar-cane.

Jagir. A feudal estate or an assignment of land by a ruler to his feudal chief in return for military or other services.

Jagirdar. A feudal chief holding an assignment of land from a ruler in return for military or other service.

Jahannum. Muslim name for hell.

Jannat. Muslim name for heaven.

Jati. In Indian languages this word is used synonymously for caste as well as sub-caste. It denotes a small endogamous and occupational group forming the effective unit of caste system.

Karma. The law that binds everyone to enjoy or suffer the consequences of one's action in former life. This concept is based on the widely

1: Dube E-5 (1951-52) 1955 AW17 Telugu AW17

GLOSSARY

held Hindu theory of rebirth. In common talk it is used synonymously with fate or destiny. 104

Kharif. Crops sown in the rainy season.

Lingam (also *Linga*). Phallus, symbol of Shiva.

Lunar year. Counting of months by phases of the moon. Between two new moons the period is roughly twenty-nine and a half days; so every fourth lunar year an additional month is calculated to keep pace with the solar years.

Mantram (also *Mantra*). Incantation or spell. In Sanskrit, and in other languages derived from it, it also denotes hymn, sacred text, and mystical verse.

Moksha. Salvation; emancipation from the bondage of birth and death.

Muslim. Follower of Islam.

Narka. Hell.

Panchayat. Village council.

Pap. Sin.

Punya. Merit.

Rabi. Crops sown in winter.

Rupee. The unit of Indian currency. A rupee is equal to sixteen annas; an anna being subdivided into four pice or twelve pies. Rs.13/6 are equivalent to £1, and an American dollar is roughly equal to Rs. 5/-.

Sanyasa. The stage of renunciation during which a person abandons all worldly possessions and ties.

Shaiva. A Hindu sect worshipping Shiva as the greatest god, regarding him as the source and essence of the universe.

Swarga. Heaven.

Vaishnava. Hindu sect regarding Vishnu as the Supreme Being.

Vanaprastha. The third or hermit's stage in the life of a Hindu.

Vansham. Lineage.

Varna. Traditional scheme of classification of castes into four levels. The first three of these are regarded as twice-born, and the untouchables are kept outside the framework of caste system.

Yantram. Secret magical formulae and designs.